



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

13 October 2015

Top Stories

- An October 8 explosion at a Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company-owned natural gas pipeline in Gibson, Louisiana, killed three workers and injured two others. – *WDSU 6 New Orleans* (See item [1](#))
- Officials worked to preserve water in Columbia, South Carolina, October 8 after a canal that serves as the main source of drinking water for about 375,000 customers collapsed in 2 places following recent storms and flooding. – *Associated Press* (See item [12](#))
- Police took a gunman into custody after one person was killed and three others were injured when the suspect attacked students in a parking lot next to the Mountain View residence hall at Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff October 9. – *CNN* (See item [13](#))
- Grant Public Utility District reported October 8 that six employees were injured in an explosion at Priest Rapids Dam in Central Washington due to faulty electrical equipment. – *Associated Press* (See item [19](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *October 8, WDSU 6 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Police: 3 dead, 2 in serious condition after Gibson plant explosion.** An October 8 explosion at a Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company-owned natural gas pipeline in Gibson, Louisiana, killed three workers and injured two others. Company officials stated that the pipeline was not operational during the incident, and that the cause of the explosion remains under investigation.

Source: <http://www.wdsu.com/news/local-news/new-orleans/explosion-reported-at-natural-gas-pipeline-in-gibson/35726080>

2. *October 8, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Oil well oversight in L.A. Basin is ‘inconsistent,’ audit finds.** The California Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources released a report October 8 which found inconsistent monitoring and enforcement of well construction and operation in the agency’s Cypress office including, how 78 percent of oil projects researched in the Los Angeles Basin did not undergo required Area of Review, that records were often incomplete or missing, and testing and methods to ensure that aquifers and drinking water were not contaminated were incomplete, among other findings.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-oil-report-health-20151009-story.html>

Chemical Industry Sector

3. *October 9, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (New Hampshire) **Hanover, N.H. Army lab fined and takes steps to improve safety under EPA settlement.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reached a \$85,059 settlement October 8 with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for claims that the Army Corps did not comply with safety requirements and Risk Management Plan regulations contained in the Federal Clean Air Act in its handling of anhydrous ammonia at its Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, New Hampshire. The Army Corps began addressing the deficiencies identified including retooling its ventilation systems to surpass the EPA’s requirements.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/783457BAA045BBDF85257ED800693930>

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

Critical Manufacturing Sector

See item [16](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

Financial Services Sector

4. *October 8, Associated Press* – (National) **Ex-TD Bank executive pleads guilty to role in Ponzi scheme.** A former Toronto-Dominion Bank executive pleaded guilty October 8 to wire fraud conspiracy for his role in a \$1.2 billion Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors by promising profits from confidential legal settlements that did not exist. The suspect signed “lock letters” assuring investors that their funds were secure in bank accounts, and instead used the money for personal use.
Source: <http://www.wsj.com/articles/ex-td-bank-executive-pleads-guilty-to-role-in-ponzi-scheme-1444317265>

Transportation Systems Sector

5. *October 9, WTOP 103.5 FM Washington, D.C.* – (Maryland) **Truck drives off beltway overpass onto Suitland Parkway, 1 dead.** All outbound lanes of Suitland Parkway in Prince George’s County remained closed October 9 while inbound lanes reopened nearly 8 hours after a semi-truck fell from a beltway overpass onto the Suitland Parkway, killing the driver.
Source: <http://wtop.com/prince-georges-county/2015/10/fatal-crash-leads-to-closure-of-suitland-parkway/slide/1/>
6. *October 9, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Bird strike forces Delta plane to make an impromptu landing at Sea-Tac.** A Delta flight headed to Hong Kong, China, made an emergency landing at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport October 8 after the pilot reported that the plane hit at least one bird. Crews worked to clean the aircraft and an initial inspection found no damage.
Source: <http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/transportation/bird-strike-forces-delta-plane-to-make-a-emergency-landing-at-sea-tac/>
7. *October 9, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Officials: Broken rail caused West Virginia train derailment.** The Federal Railroad Administration reported October 9 that CSX Corp., and a contractor were each fined \$25,000 after an investigation of a February train derailment where 27 rail cars derailed, leaked crude oil, and caught fire in West Virginia, revealed that the derailment was caused by a broken rail that was missed by 2 separate inspections months prior to the accident.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/officials-reveal-west-virginia-train-derailment-34366184>
8. *October 8, Fresno Business Journal* – (California) **EPA singles out trucking company for first-ever air violations.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced October 8 that Estes Express Lines trucking company was issued a \$100,000 fine for allegedly violating the California Truck and Bus Regulation dozens of times between 2012 and 2014 by not installing diesel particulate filters in

commercial heavy diesel trucks and buses operating in California. The company agreed to contribute to two supplemental environmental projects relate to improving air quality in the San Joaquin Valley, and only operates new trucks in the State.

Source: <http://www.thebusinessjournal.com/news/transportation/19698-epa-singles-out-trucking-company-for-first-ever-air-violations>

Food and Agriculture Sector

9. *October 8, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **American Pure Whey issues allergy alert on undeclared milk and soy in whey protein products.** New Bern-based American Pure Whey issued a recall October 7 for its whey protein products due to misbranding after a subsequent investigation revealed a temporary breakdown in the company's production and packaging processes, which did not list milk or soy as an ingredient. The products were distributed to retail stores nationwide. Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm466330.htm>
10. *October 8, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Tristar Food Wholesale Co. Inc. issues allergy alert on undeclared sulfites in Heng Cheong Loong Co. Golden Raisins.** Jersey City-based Tristar Food Wholesale Co. Inc., recalled its Heng Cheong Loong Co. Dried Golden Raisins October 8 after the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets detected the presence of undeclared sulfites in the products. The products were distributed from July 1 – October 5 and sold in several States. Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm466373.htm>
11. *October 8, KCCI 8 Des Moines* – (Iowa) **3,000 gallon liquid manure spill reported at Iowa farm.** Iowa officials reported that 3,000 gallons of manure was spilled at the Ring Valley hog confinement on a farm near Oskaloosa October 7, after a valve on a manure loading tank system failed to close properly. Some manure that seeped into a small tributary of the South Skunk River was contained and officials are monitoring the area. Source: <http://www.kcci.com/news/3000-gallon-liquid-manure-spill-reported-at-iowa-farm/35726306>

Water and Wastewater Systems Sector

12. *October 8, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **After the flood, a rush to preserve drinking water.** Officials worked to preserve water in Columbia, South Carolina, October 8 after a canal that serves as the main source of drinking water for about 375,000 customers collapsed in 2 places following recent storms and flooding, forcing crews to build a rock dam to plug holes, drop sandbags into rushing waters, and place orange pumps on the banks of the canal to pump water into the reservoir. Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/receding-floodwaters-lead-homecoming-heartbreak-34333048>

Healthcare and Public Health Sector

See item [16](#)

Government Facilities Sector

13. *October 9, CNN* – (Arizona) **Northern Arizona University shooting followed confrontation, police say.** Police took a gunman into custody after one person was killed and three others were injured when the suspect attacked students in a parking lot next to the Mountain View residence hall at Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff October 9. Officials alleged that the shooting was the result of a confrontation between two groups of students.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2015/10/09/us/northern-arizona-university-shooting/index.html>
14. *October 8, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Oregon) **OSHA cites the US Forest Service for serious, repeated violations at two Malheur National Forest ranger districts.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited the U.S. Forest Service October 7 for repeated and rampant workplace violations at two separate ranger districts in Oregon's Malheur National Forest following April inspections which found numerous violations including electrical, fall, compressed gas storage, and several other safety issues.
Source: https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=28887

For additional stories, see items [3](#) and [16](#)

Emergency Services Sector

15. *October 8, Annapolis Capital Gazette* – (Maryland) **Third county corrections officer pleads guilty in jail smuggling operation.** The third of four corrections officers from Jennifer Road Detention Center in Annapolis pleaded guilty October 8 to charges in connection to a contraband smuggling operation at the detention center where the corrections officer agreed to smuggle drugs, alcohol, and tobacco for an inmate at the facility in exchange for money.
Source: http://www.capitalgazette.com/news/for_the_record/ph-ac-cn-corrections-officer-plea-1009-20151008-story.html

Information Technology Sector

16. *October 9, Help Net Security* – (International) **Attackers compromise Cisco Web VPNs to steal login credentials, backdoor target networks.** Security researchers from Volexity discovered that attackers are continuing to leverage unpatched vulnerabilities or finding ways to gain administrator access to networks via Cisco Clientless secure sockets layer (SSL) virtual private network (VPN) portals in order to harvest employee credentials by injecting malicious JavaScript code on login pages to the VPN. The attackers are reportedly targeting academic institutions, medical facilities, electronics and manufacturing businesses, and government organizations.
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=18958>

17. *October 9, Softpedia* – (International) **WordPress XML-RPC service used to amplify brute-force attacks.** Security researchers from Sucuri discovered a variation of brute-force attacks that is utilizing WordPress' built-in extensible markup language remote procedure call (XML-RPC) feature to amplify attacks by bundling together hundreds and thousands of administrative username and password combinations. Researchers recommend deleting the plugin if it is not being used.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/wordpress-xml-rpc-service-used-to-amplify-brute-force-attacks-494170.shtml>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <http://www.it-isac.org>

Communications Sector

Nothing to report

Commercial Facilities Sector

18. *October 9, WCNC 36 Charlotte* – (North Carolina) **4 treated and released after SouthPark mall evacuation.** Officials reported October 8 that the SouthPark Mall in Charlotte, North Carolina, reopened after a carbon monoxide leak prompted an evacuation October 7 and also sent four individuals to a local hospital for treatment. Air quality levels returned to normal and all hazards were removed by firefighters.

Source: <http://www.wcnc.com/story/news/local/southpark-madison-park/2015/10/08/southpark-mall-evacuated-due-to-hazardous-conditions/73625016/>

Dams Sector

19. *October 8, Associated Press* – (Washington) **6 utility employees injured in Washington state dam explosion on Columbia River.** Grant Public Utility District reported October 8 that six employees were injured in an explosion at Priest Rapids Dam in Central Washington due to faulty electrical equipment. The structure of the dam is stable and officials reported there were no threats to the public.

Source: <http://www.570news.com/2015/10/08/6-utility-employees-injured-in-washington-state-dam-explosion-on-columbia-river/>

For another story, see item [12](#)



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